REMARKS

Claims 1, 5, 7, 12, 15, 26 and 37 have been amended and claims 24 and 25 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1-23 and 26-39 are pending in the application. Reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the amendments and the remarks to follow.

Claims 24 and 25 have been canceled without prejudice to promote compact prosecution and in order to advance issuance of the application, however, such cancellation does not indicate agreement with any grounds of rejection. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute such claims.

Allowable Subject Matter:

Pursuant to a conversation between Examiner L. Vo and Applicant's representative, F. Fliegel, on Dec. 16, 2004, claims 8, 11, 16, 20 and 33 are allowable over the art of record. Claims 9, 10, 17-19, 21-23 and 34-36 variously depend from such claims and thus also are allowable over the art of record.

Examiner Vo additionally indicated that claims 1, 5, 7, 12, 15 and 37 would be allowable if amended to incorporate into the bodies of the claims language already present in the preambles thereof. Claims 1, 5, 7, 12, 15 and 37 have been so amended and thus are also allowable over the art of record. Claims 2-4, 6, 13, 14, 38 and 39 variously depend from such claims and thus also are allowable over the art of record.

Examiner Vo further indicated that claim 26 would be allowable if amended to address minor informalities. Claim 26 has been so amended and thus

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is allowable over the art of record.   Claims 27-32 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 26 and thus as well are allowable over the art of record.

Conclusion

Claims 1-23 and 26-39 are in condition for allowance.   Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and issuance of the subject application. Should any matter in this case remain unresolved, the undersigned attorney respectfully requests a telephone conference with the Examiner to resolve any such outstanding matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: Dec 22, 2004

By: _____

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